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1. PROBLEM.--To provide the most effective means of acquiring, processing and exploiting the Russian scientific literature for the purposes of intelligence.

2. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM:--

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a. The Russian scientific literature is an important source of scientific intelligence, and its systematic exploitation for intelligence purposes is essential to national security.

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b. Because the bulk of the Russian scientific literature received in the United States is openly available, its acquisition, cataloguing, indexing, abstracting, translation and the dissemination of information concerning the above can be performed most efficiently on an unclassified basis under the over-all coordination of a non-intelligence agency.

c. Furthermore, the size and complexity of the problem requires that resources other than those of the intelligence agencies be devoted to the work on the unclassified literature in order that the intelligence agencies may concentrate on the acquisition and exploitation of the literature not openly available.

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d. Because of the value of the open Russian scientific literature to U. S. science as a whole, and the increasing interest of various segments of U. S. science in this matter, it is feasible to establish an over-all program for the unclassified literature which would be compatible with intelligence interests.

e. A basic step in the establishment of an over-all program is the assignment to a single government agency of the responsibility for the over-all planning and coordination for the program.

f. At the same time, there is a need for National Security Council action to establish the responsibilities of CIA for the guidance and support of the unclassified program to insure its maximum benefit to intelligence, and for the planning and coordination of the acquisition and exploitation of Russian scientific literature not openly available.

g. If CIA is to be effective in the discharge of this responsibility, the presently divided responsibilities within the agency for the acquisition, cataloguing, indexing, abstracting, translating and exploitation of the Russian scientific literature, and for the dealing with outside agencies on these matters, must be centralized.

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h. The centralization of these activities can be accomplished in the most effective manner by:

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- 1) Centralizing the responsibility for all acquisition, cataloguing, indexing and other library functions in the CIA library for all publications whether in English or in foreign languages.
  - 2) Centralizing the exploitation of the Russian scientific literature in the research office concerned.
  - 3) Retaining a translation facility for translations of articles which cannot be accomplished by the unclassified facilities either for security or for other reasons.

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- i. In addition to an increase in effectiveness in the discharge of CIA's responsibility for the Russian/scientific literature, the integration of responsibilities outlined above will result in an over-all saving in agency personnel and facilities.

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3. CONCLUSIONS:--The solution to this problem requires:

a. The allocation of responsibility to a single government agency to plan and coordinate the over-all program for the acquisition and exploitation of openly available Russian scientific literature, using the full resources of U. S. science.

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b. The establishment of the responsibilities of CIA for the guidance and support of this program, to insure its maximum benefit to intelligence; and for the planning and coordination of the acquisition and exploitation of Russian/scientific literature not openly available as required for intelligence purposes.

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c. Centralization of the respective responsibilities within CIA for the acquisition and the exploitation of Russian/scientific literature in the CIA library and the research office concerned.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS:

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a. That CIA take the initiative in this matter by:

- 1) Transmitting a memorandum to the NSC stating the problem and the need for over-all planning and coordination of this matter with:
  - a) A draft of an Executive Order along the lines of Attachment A, establishing the responsibility for over-all planning and coordination in a single agency.

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b) A draft NSCID, along the lines of Attachment B, establishing the responsibility for planning and coordination of the intelligence aspects of the problem in CIA.

*Why suggest again*

b. That CIA centralize the respective responsibilities within the Agency for acquisition, processing and exploitation of Russian/<sup>scientific</sup> literature in accordance with the Agency responsibilities for acquisition, processing and exploiting of all other publications, retaining a translation service as necessary for CIA purposes.

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21 March 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Secretary, National Security Council

SUBJECT : The Exploitation of Russian Scientific Literature for Intelligence Purposes

1. Attached are drafts of two proposed directives, submitted for your consideration as the basis for resolving the problem of the effective exploitation of Russian scientific literature for intelligence purposes. As you know, Russian literature is one of the more important sources of present day information on what the Russians are doing, and the scientific literature could be a particularly fruitful source if its exploitation were established on a well organized basis. Complicating the problem, however, is its scope and complexity due to the language barrier, the need for exploitation by specialists who understand the subject, and the fact that while many government agencies and civilian organizations have an interest, none has the over-all responsibility for positive action. As a result the solution has been approached piecemeal with resultant duplication, gaps in our knowledge of what is available, where; and an undue burden on the intelligence agencies which might better be discharged elsewhere.

*And see Summary*

2. In view of the above, the first of the two directives submitted for your consideration (tab A) is a proposed Executive Order establishing the National Science Foundation as the agency with over-all responsibility for the foreign scientific literature problem. The National Science Foundation has a statutory responsibility in this regard, as noted in the draft, and is a logical agency to carry out the planning and coordination necessary with respect to the bulk of the Russian scientific literature, which is unclassified. It is anticipated that the actual mechanics of the work will be accomplished by arrangement or under contract with the Department of State (and Foreign Service), the Department of Defense, the Library of Congress, and other established governmental and civilian agencies now engaged in separate efforts. The establishment of the over-all responsibility for the planning and coordination of these separate efforts in a single agency, is a key to the program and is essential to its ultimate success.

3. The second draft (tab B) is a proposed NSCID, establishing the responsibility for the planning and coordination of the intelligence aspects of the problem in the Central Intelligence Agency. Since this matter is of interest to all agencies with the bulk of the work to be accomplished outside the intelligence community on an open basis, it is doubly important that there

be a focal point for the problem. There is

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*all Russian literature*  
an increasing need for planning and coordinating our efforts to obtain and exploit systematically Russian literature which we have reason to believe exists but which is not openly available. The responsibility for the above is believed to be a logical one for CIA and one which, if assigned, we will endeavor to discharge in the best interests of the intelligence community as a whole, taking full advantage of the several departmental efforts now going forward in this direction.

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EXECUTIVE ORDER

Prescribing Regulations with Respect to the Acquisition,  
Processing and Exploitation of Foreign Literature in the  
National Interest.

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as President of the United States,  
I hereby prescribe the following regulations with respect to the acquisition,  
scientific  
processing and exploitation of foreign/Literature in the national interest:

Section 1. The primary purpose of the various government programs for  
the acquisition, and dissemination of information concerning foreign  
scientific literature received openly in the United States is to insure  
the availability to U. S. scientists of the scientific information and  
ideas contained in such literature and to provide for the maximum utiliza-  
tion of such information and ideas in the national interest.

Section 2. The National Science Foundation has the basic responsibility  
for "fostering the interchange of scientific information among scientists  
in the United States and foreign countries" as prescribed by Public Law 507,  
81st Congress.

Section 3. In view of the above, the National Science Foundation is  
undertaking a program for the planning and coordination of the over-all  
governmental effort in this matter, in order to insure the discharge of  
its statutory responsibilities with respect to U. S. scientists in a manner  
compatible with the interests of the various government departments  
requiring foreign scientific literature for their specific departmental  
purposes.

Section 4. Basic elements of the over-all program of the National  
Science Foundation are:

a. Planning and coordination of the acquisition of foreign  
scientific literature taking full advantage of the existing responsi-  
bilities of the various departments of the Government as prescribed in  
Executive Order No. 10249 for the Foreign Service and in other  
directives promulgated by appropriate authority.

b. Planning and coordinating the dissemination of the foreign  
scientific literature as well as information concerning the literature

within the United States including mechanisms for indexing, cataloguing, abstracting and translation services using existing facilities where practicable.

c. Recommending the expansion of existing facilities or establishing, under contract, new facilities for the above where required in the national interests.

Section 5. All departments and agencies of the government having an interest and responsibilities with respect to foreign scientific literature are directed to provide guidance and support to the over-all program of the National Science Foundation, in order that it may meet, insofar as practicable, their specific departmental interests.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE

Acquisition and exploitation of Russian literature for intelligence purposes:

Pursuant to the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, and in view of the importance of the Russian literature as a source of intelligence of interest to all intelligence agencies; the National Security Council hereby authorizes and directs that:

*PDR* a. The Central Intelligence Agency shall plan and coordinate the acquisition, processing, exploitation and dissemination of information concerning the Russian literature needed for intelligence purposes.

*Do* b. The Central Intelligence Agency shall coordinate its efforts in this regard with the over-all program of the National Science Foundation for the acquisition, processing and exploitation of openly available foreign scientific literature.

c. In discharging this responsibility, the Central Intelligence Agency shall establish such additional programs as may be necessary for the acquisition, processing and exploitation of Russian literature not openly available as required for national security.

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